GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:331
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2006
RECONSTRUCTION OF RAILWAY BRIDGES
Jagannath Dr. M.

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have taken up or chalked out any plan for reconstruction/strengthening of railway bridges in the country, particularly Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the allocation of funds made during the current financial year for the purpose;

(d) whether the allocation is made in accordance with the requirement sought;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 331 BY DR. M. JAGANNATH TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 14.12.2006 REGARDING RECONSTRUCTION OF RAILWAY BRIDGES.

(a) to (e): Yes, Sir. Rehabilitation/repair of bridges is an ongoing process on Indian Railways. Railway undertakes repair, rehabilitation/rebuilding of bridges on the basis of their physical condition as ascertained during regular inspections carried out in the field. Based on such identification of bridges, allotment of funds is made annually to carry out their repair, rehabilitation/rebuilding duly prioritizing the works as per requirement. In 2001-02, to clear the backlog of replacement of such identified bridges on Indian Railways, 2370 bridges were sanctioned for repair/rehabilitation/rebuilding at a cost of Rs. 1530 Crore under Special Railway Safety Fund (SRSF). Apart from SRSF, additional funds are also made available annually in Railway Budget to undertake repair/rehabilitation of fresh accruals of Bridge works mainly under Depreciation Reserve Fund (DRF).

The statistics of repair, rehabilitation/ rebuilding of bridges is maintained Railway Zone- wise not State-wise. As on 1.4.2006, there are approximately 3940 bridges identified and sanctioned for repair/rebuilding/rehabilitation on all sixteen Zonal Railways. This includes 797 no. of bridges sanctioned on four zonal Railways i.e. East Coast Railway (ECoR), South Central Railway (SCR), Southern Railway (SR), and South Western Railway (SWR) which serve the State of Andhra Pradesh also.

A total of approximately Rs. 594.0 Crore have been provided in the Budget Estimate 2006-07 for Bridge works on all sixteen Zonal Railways. The funds for Bridge works are distributed among various Zonal Railways based on their annual requirements & number of bridge works targeted by them for completion during the year.

The Zone-wise break up of 797 sanctioned bridges alongwith Budget allotment 2006-07 for Bridge works on the four Zonal Railways which caters to the state of Andhra Pradesh is given as under:

S. No.	Railway	No.ofbridges identified and sanctioned as on 1.4.2006	Budget Allotment in 2006-07 (in Rs. Crore)
1.	ECOR	124	14.55
2.	SCR	308	60.82
3.	SR	303	16.88
4.	SWR	62	2.65
	Total	797	94.90

(f): Does not arise.